SECTION 5: TEST FREQUENCY AND CONVENIENCE

5.1 TEST FREQUENCY

Subject vehicles receive an emissions test in the I/M program area in conjunction with required safety inspections annually. The emissions test consists of a Visual Anti-Tampering test, Gas Cap Integrity test, and OBD test, with the newest two MY vehicles exempt from OBD testing. LA R.S. 32:1301-1314 (Appendix B) provides the legal authority necessary to implement and enforce the annual test frequency requirement.

When a vehicle is presented for an inspection and passes the test, a valid inspection certificate is issued. Should the vehicle fail for an initial Visual Anti-Tampering test, Gas Cap Integrity test, or OBD test result, applicable repairs must be completed before the vehicle can be re-inspected. Also, when a vehicle fails the inspection, a temporary 30-day sticker is issued which entitles the motorist to a free re-inspection if the vehicle is presented at the same official MVI Station and is within thirty (30) days after the initial test was conducted. The motorist may also choose to go to a different official MVI Station for re-inspection. In this case, the motorist can be charged the full price of an inspection. A valid inspection certificate is not issued until the subject vehicle passes a re-inspection. If the re-inspection occurs more than 30 days after the initial test was conducted, a complete inspection is performed, and a test fee is charged to the motorist.

5.2 CONVENIENCE

Official MVI Stations are conveniently located throughout the five-parish ozone nonattainment Baton Rouge area. Each of these official MVI Stations gives priority to customers seeking motor vehicle inspections in accordance with LA R.S. 32: 1306 (Appendix B), as they are required to test any subject vehicle presented for a test during the facility's testing hours. These official MVI Stations are open for inspection during each normal working hours/day and perform inspections throughout the year. Inspections are conducted at a minimum of forty hours per week in accordance with LAC 55:III.Chapter 8 (Appendix F).